

Hawaiian Gazette

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THE PALACE WALL.

The removal of the high unsightly wall which surrounded the Palace has been the occasion of many comments, a few regretting its demolition; but the majority are delighted with the beautiful view and spacious grounds which the removal of the wall now reveals. It can in a short time be transformed into the prettiest park in the city, the admiration of every one. The same changes are going on in other places. A San Jose paper speaks as follows of the great improvement made in that city by the removal of the high board fences and walls, some of them built many years ago, when that place was known as a mission station only:

"Everything which detracts from the beauty and attractions of our city should be removed and everything which adds to its beauty should be encouraged. We think no one who remembers the old fences which used to surround St. James Park and the Hotel Vendome grounds will hesitate to say that the beauty of these parks has been increased in a great degree by their removal and allowing an unobstructed view of the grass, flowers and walks. There are many private residences in the city whose owners have thrown off the old idea that they and their possessions must be fenced in. Years ago when the fields and farms of all America which was settled, were railed and staked and ridged in, travelers in France and other portions of Europe remarked the great contrast in reference to beauty between the open fields there and the ungainly fences here. You may travel hundreds of miles in France without seeing a fence. In the Eastern towns and cities fences are fast becoming things of the past. Any neatly kept home looks fifty per cent. better without a fence, even when the fence is neat and ornamental."

OUT DOOR SPORTS.

A very healthy sign among the rising generation here is the fondness for athletic and out of door sports. A couple of decades ago the only amusement for young men was riding. Now we have a regular baseball season and see some very good play. Much is done in the way of boating, while the richer people have gone in for yachting. All this develops the muscles, expands the chest, trains the eye and keeps the nerves in good order. Then there is the drilling and training in the rifle corps, with a week's camping out next year, we hope. For the fair sex there is lawn tennis, and so forth, are going to be more steady than the generation which had no such opportunities. A man to be a crack shot, or a good pitcher, must lead a very regular life. If he does not he cannot hold his pre-eminence long. A fondness for athletic sports is thus a direct incentive to virtue. We have a rather shrewd idea that a pull round the spar buoy gives as much healthy moral tone as a very long lecture; in fact the old saying is a pretty true one "a healthy soul will accompany a healthy body."

It behooves, then, the older members of the community, to show that they take a thorough interest in all kinds of athletic sports and to give their young men ample opportunity for indulging in them. There is really no reason why some of our places of business close as late as they do. An improvement has been made by giving the Saturday half holiday; but a still greater improvement can be made by reducing the length of the office hours, and closing somewhat earlier than is, in some cases, now done. We do not mean that a large number of our citizens do not take the liberal view, but there are some who do not, and who will be all the better for a little shaking up.

SOMETHING ABOUT TONGA.

The death of Prince Taifone, the heir-apparent to the Tonga throne, cuts off the succession in a direct line; and when the aged king dies the kingdom of Tonga, or the Friendly Islands, will be annexed to the government of Fiji from which colony it is only 300 miles distant—indeed some of the outlying islands of both groups are within sight of each other.

The present king, George, of Tonga has reigned over 50 years; and his kingdom has been practically under a British protectorate for over 30 years. The entire trade of the Tonga islands is with the Australian colonies; and the traders resident upon the islands are British, and conduct branches of Australian business houses.

Tongataboo, the largest and chief island of the group, is about 100 miles long by about 25 miles wide. It is of coral formation without any natural elevation more than 100 feet above sea level. The soil is very fertile throughout, and there is a large inland saltwater lagoon having a navigable passage to the ocean. Upon this island the capital Nukelofa, is situated; but its harbor is only a roadstead.

Vauvau, Apai, and Eoa are the other islands of the group of any size worthy of mention, and the first named possesses a good harbor and is of volcanic origin.

The exports consist of coconut oil, copra, tobacco, cotton, coconut fibre, etc.; and the population of the group is about 30,000 natives. The white and half caste population is about 800, most of these being resident in the city of Nukelofa, Tongataboo.

The protestant missionaries are Wesleyan Methodists, and the Catholic missionaries are from France. The latitude and climate are similar to the Hawaiian Islands.

King George is now about 80 years of age, and is a Wesleyan missionary—preaching every Sunday in the native church at Nukelofa.

CAPITAL FOR MINOR ENTERPRISES.

"Too many eggs in one basket" is what is charged by naval writers when speaking of the great ironclads of the day. And "too many eggs in one basket" is what we must charge against the financiers of this country. Sugar is the beginning and the end of all our prosperity. Here no one will think of advancing money save upon the great staple, for that, even in unlikely places, money can always be found. But why cannot money be advanced in small sums for small enterprises? Take for example fruit. There are many people who would give their industry if they could only get sufficient capital to tide them over the first profitless years of fruit culture. There are lands even about Honolulu where considerable quantities of fruit could be raised which would find a ready market, both here and in San Francisco. Upon the opening of the new railroad more of such lands will be opened. What will then be needed, will be a loan and investment company which will be willing to advance money at a moderate rate of interest for the purchase of small lots of land, and assistance in cultivating them. There is plenty of money here seeking investment, why not put it to such good purpose instead of allowing it to remain idle? Such a company formed of our own capitalists will be a real boon and will very likely help to solve some of the social problems at present agitating the public mind. It will tend to raise up a sturdy intermediate class between the mere wage earner and the sugar planter—a class upon whom thorough reliance can be placed in all times of political difficulty. What we want is to get the eggs of prosperity spread around among the people. Those who have already got their eggs must contribute a few to assist those who have not, and by so doing they will find their own baskets filling up faster than ever.

Another thing that should be here is a "Building Society." The members of such societies are assisted either in erecting their own houses or in purchasing those they already occupy. Thousands of small house holders in other countries owe their happy homes to the advantageous workings of these societies. We talk here of the Government doing everything. There ought to be private enterprise at the heels of government work, and in the lines above indicated this is an ample field. Let our capitalists think over the matter.

KONA AS A HEALTH-RESORT.

Why is not some effort made to improve the natural advantages of Kona? As a health resort for people suffering from pulmonary complaints its climate is unrivalled, it is a place to which doctors are forever bidding their patients to go, and yet there are no proper accommodations for sick people when they get there. There are, it is true, one or two places where people can get rooms, but sick people need far more than anything Kona can at present offer. Private enterprise is needed. We would think it would pay some physicians to invest in suitable sites and establish a regular sanitarium. Well conducted, and well advertised we feel confident that the enterprise would become very successful. But it would, in the first place, require money to run it as it should be run.

Kona is easily reached from here, the steamer being at Kealahou Bay within twenty-four hours of leaving Honolulu. The latter part of the voyage, being along the leeward side of the Island of Hawaii, is like sailing over a mill-pond. Various kinds of climate can be obtained. Along the coast it is extremely dry, a couple of miles inland, up the mountain side it is cool, with frequent showers in the afternoon. Patients should have the opportunity of trying both situations. We have known patients to be much benefited by changing about in this way.

With its natural advantages Kona ought to be able to restore to health hundreds of people who are now seeking a proper climate and not finding it. It should be to the States what Madeira is to northern Europe. But if we have natural advantages they are of little use till we improve them. It does really seem as if the enterprise which marks all who inhabit the Western States, begins to diminish somewhat when it reaches these favored islands. Sugar is the be all and end of all enterprise here. A company might take up the work of establishing the sanitarium suggested. Successful, it would be of advantage to all the steamer lines. It would benefit many people, for in a large majority of cases, the healthy would accompany the sick.

ISLAND CRIME.

There have been several serious crimes committed in various parts of the Islands which go to show that the character of our population is changing. There was a time when the crime of murder was of very rare occurrence, and then the causes of it were usually jealousy or some kindred passion. Murder for greed was practically unknown. This is now very much changed. Murder for the sake of obtaining money has become far too common. During the past eight or nine years there have been quite a number of cases, and, if our memory serve us, they have in nearly every instance been committed by Chinese. This points to two necessities. One, that a portion of our police should, if possible, be acquainted with the Chinese language; in point of fact that some of them should be Chinese. Three or four Chinese detectives would be very valuable. Perhaps a still better place would be to send to Hongkong and obtain Europeans who are acquainted with the Chinese language. To speak Chinese is by no means as rare an accomplishment as it was twenty-five years ago.

Secondly, the idea of a mounted constabulary must be revived. The last experiment in mounted police proved such an utter failure that the very idea is usually scouted. But because such a body was misused in the past, there is no earthly reason why it should be so in the present. There is absolute need for patrol duty not only in the outskirts of the city but also along the lonely roads of the country districts. The constable, who is dependent upon any broken down nag that he can hire, is a long way behind the regular mounted constabulary man, upon a well fed and well trained horse. To organize such a mounted police we do not require military men, we require those who have had to deal with constabulary. There are several men in the islands who have occupied such positions for years and who could be got together for a nucleus. Lastly when the next Legislature meets there will have to be a very much larger appropriation made for police of all kinds and the force very much increased. The civil authority has not, at present, sufficient power to cope with the criminal classes of the community. We believe that the best is done

with the means at command, but the means are not sufficient.

SOUTH SEA EXHIBITION.

A New Zealand and South Sea Exhibition is now being held in a British colony, New Zealand, at the very outer edge of the clusters of islands known as the "South Sea Islands." When it is possible to make a success of a South Sea exhibition in a small British colony 10 degrees south of the tropics, and where the characteristics of the tropical islands are unknown, excepting among a comparatively small number who have visited some of the groups, how much better success would attend a South Sea or Pacific Island exhibition at Honolulu, which is within the tropics and has many of the characteristics of the countries whose products would be exhibited? Situated as Honolulu is, as a commercial center of the Pacific, and within the geographical area of the belt of tropical islands of this vast ocean, the success that would attend a judiciously planned and skillfully conducted exhibition in this city of Pacific island products, is incalculable; and the more this matter is studied in all its bearings, the more favorable does the scheme appear.

It would be no exaggerated estimate that 25,000 strangers could be drawn to visit the Hawaiian Islands upon an occasion of this nature; and, as an advertisement of Honolulu and the islands, nothing could possibly be more effective.

The cost need not be very large to this Kingdom; little more would be required than the co-operation of the residents, and liberal grants of facilities in aid of the work. For an enterprise of this kind, foreign capital could easily be had, because of the profits that accrue to well managed exhibitions.

Were our Government to advertise that such a movement is in contemplation at Honolulu, the amount of aid that would be offered from all quarters, and the amount of interest that would be taken in the movement, would be astonishing in its bulk and ramifications.

Honolulu is the queen city of the Pacific, and the mere fact that a British colony in the far southern seas, hardly within the limits of the Pacific ocean, should successfully carry out an exhibition of Pacific island products, is a reflection upon Hawaiian enterprise that only a better exhibition at Honolulu can wipe out.

This is a matter that interests all the business men of these islands, irrespective of political considerations, and it is to be hoped that a movement toward having a Pacific Island Exhibition, at or near Honolulu, will proceed from our residents of influence, because upon their initiative aid would be the only promise of ultimate success.

The articles to be exhibited would not only comprise all island products and manufactures; but also the machines, implements, textile fabrics, etc., of all parts of the world; and especially the articles marketable in the tropical regions of this vast ocean.

Advertisements.

Election of Officers.

AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HONOLULU SUGAR CO. held Aug. 14, 1889, the following officers were duly elected:

President, Tom May
Secretary, W. W. Hall
Treasurer, E. C. Jones
Auditor, J. O. Carter
Directors, F. W. Wendenburg, W. G. Brash, W. M. W. Hall, Secretary Honolulu Sugar Co. 1284-45 39-26

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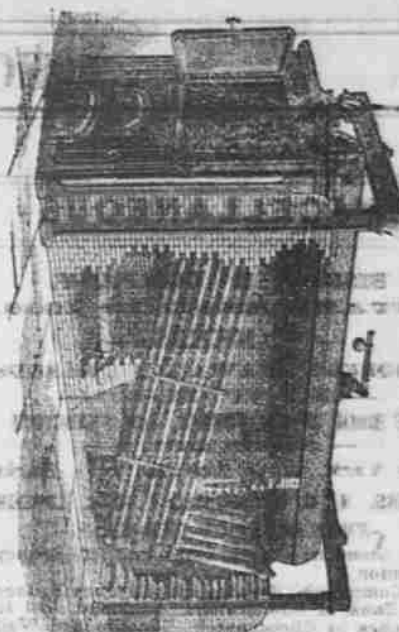
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